



2026 NASN ELECTIONS

VICE PRESIDENT



Lori Haapala

Lori M Haapala BSN, RN, NCSN

Vice President Candidate

Current NASN Affiliate: West Virginia Association of School Nurses (WVASN)

Major Clinical, Teaching, or Practice Area: Educator; School Nurse, Secondary

Education: Rancho Santiago Community College, Nursing, Associate Degree in Nursing, 1994. West Virginia University, Nursing, Bachelor Degree of Nursing, 2013. Marshall University, Nursing Management & Administration, will graduate in 2026 with a Master's Degree in Nursing Management & Administration.

Awards, Achievements, and Honors:

2023 NASN President's Recognition Award as part of the DEI Task Force

Number of Years in School Nursing: 13 years

Employment:

- Iterant School Nurse, 2014-Present (started as substitute), Kanawha County Schools
 - Deliver evidence-based clinical care for acute illnesses, injuries, and chronic health conditions in a public middle school. Advocate for student health equity. Collaborate with the School-Based Health Center to educate students and families and provide needed care. Develop and manage Individual Healthcare Plans and 504s. Assist Social Worker and administration with chronic absences.

Other Significant Positions Held: Renal Nurse, 2006-2008, Charleston Area Medical Center; School-Based Health Center Coordinator and Technical Assistance, 2016-2018, Marshall University School of Medicine; Online Class Facilitator & Class Developer for School Nurses, 2017-present, West Virginia Department of Education

Present NASN Offices/Appointments: NASN CSSSE Epilepsy Navigator Program, 2021-present; NASN Investment Advisory Committee, 2020-present

Past NASN Offices/Appointments: NASN Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force, 2020-2022; NASN Executive Committee, 2020-2023; NASN Strategic Research Committee Chair, 2021-2023; NASN Endowment Allocation Advisory Committee, 2021-2023; NASN Education and School Nurse Practice Committee, 2019 to 2021

Present NASN Affiliate Offices/Appointments: WVASN Continuing Education Coordinator, 2021-present

Past NASN Affiliate Offices/Appointments: WVASN Executive Director to NASN, 2018-2023; WVASN Treasurer, 2017-2019

Present Offices/Appointments in Other Associations: American Academy of Pediatrics – First Aid and Safety Program for Lay Audiences Steering Committee for Development of Curricula, 2022-present; Children's Neurology Foundation Content Review Committee, 2022-present

Past Offices/Appointments in Other Associations: National Board for Certification of School Nurses – Board Member, November 2023-June 2024 (Resigned to care for my mother); West Virginia Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) – Board of Directors, 2003-2018

Publications Significant to School Nursing:

National Association of School Nurses, (2022). School-Located Vaccination, (Position Statement). Silver Spring, MD: Amidon, C., Haapala, L., Whitney, S.

National Association of School Nurses, (2019). Student Healthcare Access: A Right and Not a Privilege (Position Brief). Silver Spring, MD: Bailey, S., Crowe, D., Compton, L., Elliott, K., Haapala, L., and Lechtenberg, J.

National Association of School Nurses, (2020). Concussion – School-Based Management (Position Statement). Silver Spring, MD: Griffin, C., Haapala, L., Landry, J., and Neumann, L.

West Virginia Association of School Nurses – COVID-19: School Re-Entry and Recommendations And Guidelines. Charleston, WV: Ashley, A., Haapala, L., Knapp, S., Lilly, J., McCoy, P., Ward, C., and Warden, A.

Participation in Publication Review: NA

Presentations Significant to School Nursing:

School Nurse Certification for the State of West Virginia. (2019). Presented at KidStrong Conference in Charleston, WV

Diabetes and School. (2016). Presented at KidStrong Conference in Charleston, WV

504 Plans for Your T1D Student (2016). Presented at the West Virginia Branch of JDRF Weekend

Research Significant to School Nursing: NA

Participation in Data Collection: State Data Coordinator for the state of WV – Collecting data from all school nurses in WV.

Statement of View:

I am honored to be considered for the position of Vice President of the National Association of School Nurses (NASN). The profession of school nursing is at a crucial moment, facing significant challenges as well as tremendous opportunities. One issue that remains is the continuing disparity in access to health services across geographic, socioeconomic, and racial lines. As a dedicated school nurse serving in a rural community, I am committed to advancing the health and well-being of all students, especially those facing significant barriers to care.

Far too many of our students continue to experience untreated health conditions due to persistent health disparities. These include students from racial and ethnic groups, low-income families, LGBTQ+ youth, and the growing population of children in foster care. I am passionate about identifying and addressing these inequities to ensure that every student, regardless of background, has access to the care and support they need to be successful.

Mental health remains one of the most urgent issues facing our schools today. The rise in anxiety, depression, and dependence on vaping underscores the need for comprehensive school-based interventions. School nurses are uniquely positioned to lead this effort, and I am committed to strengthening the resources and support systems necessary to meet our students' evolving mental health needs.

It is vital that NASN remains relevant and continues to foster growth in the association to demonstrate its impact on school health. NASN continues to evolve by strengthening its role in important conversations, expanding strategic partnerships, and ensuring the voices of school nurses are included in policymaking. As Vice President, I will continue with NASN's membership engagement, leadership development, and inclusive representation missions.

**This Vice President candidate completed
the Nominating Committee process.**